

Election Address

Paul Reuter

Dear Colleague.

This election is not about me, it's about the future of the union and you, because it's you that can make a difference.

Since joining our union as a shipyard apprentice in 1969 and being elected as convenor and then AEU Full Time Officer in 1986, I have gained the knowledge and experience both at regional and national level that is necessary to lead our great union through the difficult times that lay ahead.

My experience is as follows:

12 years – Regional Officer
10 years – National Officer
Life Time – Trade Unionist

I have the time, energy, and experience to take our union forward into the future and I am the only candidate who is not constrained by personal ambition or narrow political views.

This election has exposed some of the infighting that is taking place at the top of our union but with the intervention of the National Executive Committee it has aided the integration process.

We now have an opportunity to rebuild our union and set in place policies that would include a demand for a more balanced economy and a greater degree of corporate responsibility in the banking and finance sectors.

To make the most of this opportunity our members need to play an active part within our trade union, communities, and life, to build a fair and inclusive society based upon equality of opportunity for all and not on the greed of a few.

We need to involve and organise the young, retired, labourer, skilled, manager, working, unemployed, and those that fall within our Equality Strands in our union.

The opportunity for real and lasting social and economic change through industrial and political involvement is here and we need to grasp it.

We have a wonderfully diverse and culturally different membership base. It is those differences that make us strong and together we can make our union stronger.

Our industrial structures ensure that members can develop the right policies for the businesses in which they work. However, I believe that we can and should do more to ensure that our members who may be staff, managerial and professional grades also have an opportunity to develop policies that are right for them within an industrial structure within our union

For the past 10 years, as a National Officer, I have represented our members in the following industries:

Ministry of Defence
Government Establishments
Metropolitan Police
Confederation of Engineering and Shipbuilding Unions
Rail, Buses and Ferries
Shipbuilding and Ship Repair
Aerospace
Chemicals
Pharmaceuticals
Information Technology
Communications
Managerial and Professional Associations
Royal Mail
Steel

But this election is not about me.

It's about us all doing our best for our fellow trade unionists and their families.

Your vote is important.

You now have the opportunity to elect a General Secretary devoted to the future of our union and you the member.

I earnestly seek your support.

Best wishes and in solidarity

Paul Reuter

Vote for Paul Reuter